HOUSE BILL 2483 By Bowers

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 56, Chapter 7, Part 23, relative to certain health insurance benefits after the birth of a child.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 56, Chapter 7, Part 23, is amended by adding the following new section:

- (a) On or after July 1, 1996, every health care insurance contract that provides maternity benefits that is issued, amended, or renewed in this state shall provide coverage for a minimum of forty-eight (48) hours of in-patient care following a vaginal delivery and a minimum of ninety-six (96) hours of in-patient care following a cesarean section for a mother and her newly born child in a health care facility.
- (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of this section, a hospital service corporation contract that provides coverage for post-delivery care to a mother and her newly born child in the home shall not be required to provide for a minimum of forty-eight (48) hours and ninety-six (96) hours, respectively, of in-patient care unless such in-patient care is determined to be medically necessary by the attending physician or is requested by the mother. For the purposes of this section, attending physician shall include the attending obstetrician, pediatrician or other physician attending the mother or newly born child.
- (c) Post-delivery care shall consist of a minimum of three (3) home visits, in accordance with accepted maternal and neonatal physical assessments, by a registered

professional nurse with at least three (3) years experience in community maternal and child health nursing. Services provided by the registered professional nurse shall include, but not be limited to, parent education, assistance and training in breast or bottle feeding, and the performance of any necessary and appropriate clinical tests. The home visits shall be conducted within twenty-four (24) hours; within twenty-five (25) to forty-eight (48) hours; and within ninety-six (96) to one hundred twenty (120) hours after the discharge of the mother and her newly born child.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring

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